

2 and 3. **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A composite material comprised of a plurality of electrical excitation zone- treated, adhesive coated beads having average diameters between about 1 and about 10 mm and of which at least 50 percent are at least 50 percent coated with an adhesive and wherein a cured form of said adhesive has a hardness ranging from about Shore A 20 to about Shore A 95 and is used in a quantity such that it represents between about 20 and about 80 weight percent of the composite material and thereby serving to create a system of void spaces that constitutes from about 10 to about 40 volume percent the total volume of said composite material.

Claim 2 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein the adhesive coated beads have average diameters between about 1 and about 4 mm.

Claim 3 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are inelastic.

Claim 4 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are elastic.

Claim 5 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are made of polymeric materials selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, propylene and ethyl propylene copolymer.

Claim 6 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said system of void spaces is substantially comprised of substantially regularly distributed void spaces.

Claim 7 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein the beads have diameters ranging from about 1 mm to about 4 mm.

Claim 8 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are solid.

Claim 9 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are hollow.

Claim 10 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are made of a ceramic material.

Claim 11 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are made from a glass material.

Claim 12 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are made of a plastic material.

Claim 13 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein the beads have one or more holes passing through their bodies.

Claim 14 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are made of a thermosetting material.

Claim 15 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are made of a thermoplastic material.

Claim 16 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein the adhesive is made from a two part resin.

Claim 17 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein the adhesive is made from a thermosetting synthetic resin.

Claim 18 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein the adhesive is made from a thermoplastic synthetic material.

Claim 19 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are of different sizes.

Claim 20 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are comprised of a mixture of different kinds of beads.

Claim 21 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are coated with a coupling agent to promote bead/adhesive bonding.

Claim 22 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are electrical excitation zone-treated more than once to accomplish more than one kind of treatment.

Claim 23 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are coated with a polymeric material by the action of an electrical excitation zone treatment.

Claim 24 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are spherical.

Claim 25 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are ellipsoid.

Claim 26 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said beads are made of different polymeric materials.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said material is placed in a ~~cloth-like~~ cloth casing.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The composite material of claim 1 wherein said material is placed in a ~~net-like~~ net casing.

Claim 29 (original): The composite material of 1 wherein said material is used in conjunction with a hard plastic, outer shell.

Claim 30 (original): The composite material of claim 1 wherein at least 50 percent of the beads are at least 80 percent covered by the adhesive.

Claim 31 (original): A composite construction material comprised of a plurality of electrical excitation zone treated, adhesive coated beads having average diameters between about 1 and about 10 mm and of which at least 50 percent are at least 50 percent coated with an adhesive and wherein a cured form of said adhesive has a hardness ranging from about Shore A 20 to about Shore A 95 and is used in a quantity such that it represents between about 20 and about 80 weight percent of the padding material and thereby serving to create a system of void spaces that constitutes from about 10 to about 40 volume percent the total volume of said composite construction material.

Claim 32 (original): A water permeable, composite construction material comprised of a plurality of electrical excitation zone treated, adhesive coated beads having average diameters between about 1 and about 10 mm and of which at least 50 percent are at least 50 percent coated with an adhesive and wherein a cured form of said adhesive has a hardness ranging from about Shore A 20 to about Shore A 95 and is used in a quantity such that it represents between about 20 and about 80 weight percent of the padding material and thereby serving to create a system of void space that constitutes from about 10 to about 40 volume percent the total volume of said water permeable, composite construction material.

Claim 33 (original): A breathable, bead/adhesive/void space padding material, said material being comprised of a plurality of electrical excitation zone treated, adhesive coated beads having average diameters between about 1 and about 10 mm and of which at least 50 percent are at least 50 percent coated with an adhesive and wherein a cured form of said adhesive has a hardness ranging from about Shore a 20 to about Shore A 95 and is used in a quantity such that it represents between about 20 and about 80 weight percent of the

padding material and thereby serving to create a system of void spaces that constitutes from about 10 to about 40 volume percent the total volume of said padding material.

Claims 34 and 35 (canceled)